

Modified Peptides as Therapeutic Agents

Abstract

- 5 The present invention concerns fusion of Fc domains with
biologically active peptides and a process for preparing pharmaceutical
agents using biologically active peptides. In this invention,
pharmacologically active compounds are prepared by a process
comprising:
- 10 a) selecting at least one peptide that modulates the activity of a
protein of interest; and
- b) preparing a pharmacologic agent comprising an Fc domain
covalently linked to at least one amino acid of the selected
peptide.
- 15 Linkage to the vehicle increases the half-life of the peptide, which
otherwise would be quickly degraded in vivo. The preferred vehicle is an
Fc domain. The peptide can be selected, for example, by phage display, E.
coli display, ribosome display, RNA-peptide screening, yeast-based
screening, chemical-peptide screening, rational design, or protein
20 structural analysis.